

Justice Chas. D. Long.

The convention at Detroit properly voiced the will of Republicans throughout the state, and met the expectation of the whole people by its unanimous and hearty renomination of Justice Long for the supreme bench. In this action it not only carried out the Michigan custom of giving a second term to an official who has proven worthy, but paid a deserved tribute to one who has been broadening in character and growing in popular favor for many years.

Though with several generations of New England blood in his veins, on both his father's and mother's side, Judge Long is, perhaps, the most distinctly a Michigan man of any of the eminent jurists who have given high rank to our State Supreme Court. His parents came, in 1840, from Tewksbury, Mass., to Grand Blanc, Genesee county, and there he was born, June 14, 1841. Animate by a strong desire for a thorough education, at the age of 13 he left home for the purpose of obtaining in the schools at Flint better opportunities than were offered in his native town. He was obliged mainly to support himself, which he did by teaching winters, commencing this work before he was 16 years old.

Young Long had completed his preparatory studies and was ready to enter Michigan University, when, in 1861, the breaking out of war led to many other young men in the north, the alternative of carrying out cherished personal designs, or of listening to his country's call for patriotic service. He did not hesitate, but, in August of that year, enlisted as a private in Co. A, Eighth Michigan Infantry. His service in the army lasted only eight months, but it left a heritage of pain and distress which was to endure for the rest of his life. In the battle of Wilmington Island, Georgia, April 16, 1862, he received two severe wounds. By the first he lost his left arm, which was amputated above the elbow. The second was even more distressing in its results, a rifle ball passing through his hip and lodging in the opposite groin, where it remains embedded to this day. The wound occasioned by this ball has never healed, but has now been the source of pain and care for more than the average life time of a man. For nearly 35 years it has been a constant reminder of his military service, a perpetual discomfort. It has to be carefully dressed every day, requiring the frequent services of an attendant.

These wounds, of course, put manual labor out of the question for the rest of his life, but did not daunt his spirit. On his return to Flint Mr. Long commenced the study of law. In 1864 he was elected clerk of Genesee county, and in this office he served four terms of two years each. Besides giving him a comfortable support this position afforded a welcome opportunity to supplement his law studies by practical knowledge of the form of pleadings and the methods of court procedure. Following this he was elected prosecuting attorney for three terms, from 1874 to 1880. In addition to these local offices he was, in 1880, one of the supervisors for Michigan, of the tenth census; was appointed judge advocate by Governor Jerome; was a member of the State Military board under Governor Alger, and was appointed by Governor Luce one of the commissioners for Michigan to attend the Centennial celebration of the adoption of the constitution of the United States. He has for the past six years been president of the Detroit College of Law.

While holding the office of county clerk Mr. Long was admitted to the bar, formed a law partnership with George G. Gold, and entered upon a practice which, for the next ten years, was large and varied. It covered almost every kind of civil case except admiralty practice. This, with the knowledge of criminal law, which his service as prosecuting attorney gave, furnished an admirable equipment in general, and special law for the higher position to which he was, at a later day, called.

In 1887 the Legislature increased the number of supreme court judges from four to five, and extended the term to ten years. Mr. Long was nominated for the position thus created, and was elected by a handsome majority. Notwithstanding his physical disability he has for the past nine years been one of the most industrious members of a very illustrious court. He has sat in almost all cases that have come before the court, and his written opinions, scattered through 40 volumes of reports, are fine examples of clear statement, sound principle and logical argument.

Ever since he first gave serious thought to political questions Judge Long has been a believer in the principles of the Republican party, and was for years among the active party workers in Genesee county, but the charge of partisanship has never been made against his course on the bench. This is perhaps best illustrated by the decision on the Miner law for choosing presidential electors by congressional districts, instead of on a general ticket. In this case a strong appeal was made to party feeling on the ground that the law was unjust and contrary to all precedents, but the court held it to be constitutional, and in this decision Judge Long concurred. This action was recognized by many, even by the Democratic papers, as a notable instance of non-partisanship in the consideration of a constitutional question.

The same process was shown in the opinions written by Judge Long in the contest between Judge Whit and Judge Burt in the Kent county, and in the Grand Rapids mayoralty case, where Wood and Burt were rival claimants. Although the court has, for two years past, been unanimously Republican, no one has charged the bench with partisanship. Judge Long or any of his associates on this is not the least of the considerations that may be urged in favor of his reelection.

down to the 100th volume; that is, in less than one-third of the time nearly two-thirds as many opinions have been filed as in the earlier period, and that early period covered the administrations of such hardworkers as Cooley, Campbell, Christianity and Graven. The five judges are now writing opinions on from 800 to 700 cases a year, besides deciding from 800 to 500 motions, on many of which written decisions are filed. For the number of judges on the bench the work of the court is greater than that of any other court of last resort in the country. The work is now brought down to date. All of the cases that were ready having been heard at the last term. When, as happens in some courts, cases are delayed three or four years; it amounts almost to a denial of justice, and litigants have reason to congratulate themselves that in the Michigan court no such delays now occur.

A great improvement has been made also in the method of handling cases. The opinions handed down are no longer one-man opinions. Under the old practice, when the judges resided away from the capital, they met either Monday night or Tuesday morning, and without any preparation of the cases, or previous knowledge of them, heard the arguments, assigned cases to the judges who were to write the opinions, and went home Friday night, each judge taking the cases he was to write, and not having opportunity to consult the others when any doubtful question arose.

Now the judges all live at Lansing and examine every case, looking over the briefs and records before it is argued. After the arguments they, together, take up the records and briefs again, and examine the authorities, so that each judge has an understanding of every case, and they agree as nearly as may be upon affirming or reversing the decisions of the lower courts. Where a case is in doubt on one or more of the questions involved, they each make an examination of those questions, and then the case is assigned to one of the judges to be written. As soon as an opinion is written a copy is made and served upon each judge, so that all have opportunity to examine the opinions, in connection with the records and briefs, before they meet for the final consultation, and for attaching their signatures to the decisions.

All this takes more work than the former method, but it gives more thorough study of each case than was ever attempted until recent years. In this laborious examination of every case that comes up, Judge Long has done his full share with thorough study and with conscientious care.

Judge Long's Pension.

The pension case of Judge Long has attracted a great deal of attention in the past three years. By a ruling of Commissioner Lochren the action of a former commissioner was set aside and Judge Long's pension was reduced without a hearing and without previous notice. Against this arbitrary and unjust procedure he made a stubborn fight, carrying the case through the lower courts up to the Supreme Court of the United States. The retirement of Commissioner Lochren, which was hastened by the odium that was attached to his course in this matter, prevented a decision on the merits of the case. But Mr. Long's vigorous prosecution of it brought out so clearly the principles involved that a bill was introduced in Congress to prevent the reopening of a pension case, once decided, except upon allegations of fraud, and the present commissioner has not in any case set aside the ruling under which a pension was granted by any of his predecessors.

There were other cases similar to Judge Long's, and he is entitled to the gratitude of thousands of his comrades for his plucky fight. For in this fight he was acting in behalf of all those whose pensions were liable to be arbitrarily reduced by the rulings of an unfriendly commissioner long after the original proofs of their injury in the service were beyond their reach.

The New Candidate for Regent.

Mr. Chas. D. Lawton, of Van Buren county, the second nominee for regent of the University, has had a varied experience, both in educational and business matters. He was born in Rome, N. Y., in 1835, fitted for college at Auburn Academy, and graduated from Union College, Schenectady, N. Y. After graduation he was principal of Auburn Academy, and then superintendent of schools in that city. His father had before this acquired a large tract of land in Van Buren county, Mich., and laid out the town of Lawton, and to this place the son moved in 1863. He was instrumental in establishing a furnace there for making charcoal pig iron, and was interested in this enterprise as long as it lasted. When he came from New York state he brought with him 5,000 grape cuttings, planted the first vineyard and set out the first fruit orchard in that vicinity. He has been engaged in fruit culture ever since, and now, out of his farm of 300 acres, 30 is devoted to fruit. Lawton is one of the best fruit growing towns in that section, often shipping 12 to 15 car loads a day during the season.

In 1869 Mr. Lawton was appointed assistant professor of engineering in Michigan University, but stayed there only two years, as he found more profitable and equally attractive occupation with the state geological survey, to which he was attached as a mining expert. He helped prepare the report on the Marquette mining district in 1872 and 1873. Four years later, when the office of commissioner of mineral statistics was established, he took charge of the office as assistant and continued in that work till 1883. He was appointed commissioner of mineral statistics by Governor Alger in 1883. This position he held for six years under Governors Alger and Luce.

Mr. Lawton has thus been identified, for almost an ordinary life time, with two of the great industries of the state, mining and farming, including in the latter fruit farming. He has, besides, always been interested in the education of his state, both in his own state and in the state of Michigan. He has been identified with the state of Michigan, both in his own state and in the state of Michigan. He has been identified with the state of Michigan, both in his own state and in the state of Michigan.

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## DISK OR CUTTING HARROWS.

Facts Concerning These Implements. Faults of Some Harrows.

The cutting harrows have reduced the cost of preparing land for seeding very materially. They save the use of the breaking plow to a considerable extent, and leave a finer and firmer seed bed than is often possible after the ground has been broken in the old way. Soils differ so in texture that no general rules may be laid down, but a contributor to The Farm and Fireside calls attention to the fact that these harrows are far better adapted for use in naturally loose than tight soils, though they are being used in clays oftentimes, to escape the clods that would result from breaking the land. In the clays and clay loams they make a fine surface, giving the ground a very superficial preparation, and the soil a few inches below the surface is left in bad condition for good crop results. We may confound a firm seed bed with a hard one. While we do not want one that is very loose, it should be sufficiently so to permit air to enter freely and surplus water to escape. The authority quoted adds:

If a soil is hard packed, it needs breaking and then thorough crushing; pulverization of the surface of an unplowed field by a disk harrow is insufficient. Living as I do where these harrows have been the chief dependence in preparing land for wheat, I am sure that yields have been lessened in many cases by the compactness of the seed bed below the surface. Plants were stunted and frozen out when pulverization of the soil to a depth of six inches would have saved them. These harrows are all right in their place, but their place is in ordinarily loose soils and not in compact clays, where so many are inclined to use them to escape clods.

There are numerous styles of cutting harrows. I do not propose to recommend any particular make, but some are constructed on a faulty principle. As we know, all draw hard. But some harrows are much more wearing on a team than others. Many manufacturers have made the mistake of attaching the gang rods to the pole, thus causing a downward pull on the pole. They undertake to counteract this effect by placing the doubletrees under the pole and claim that in this way the weight is kept off the top of the horses' necks. It may be in some cases, but I have never seen a harrow constructed in this way that did not let the weight come on the horses' necks when turning at a corner, and this sinks the collars, lets the draft come on the point of the shoulders, and the team is not only wearied by the hard turning, but shoulders are bruised. The rational way is to have the pole for guidance only, having it attached to the harrow independently of the gang rods and have the doubletrees attached direct to the frame. No weight can then come on top of the horses' shoulders, and the hitch is similar to that of a breaking plow. The pole should be so attached that no tilt of the harrow can put any weight upon it.

The Round Silo.

In The New England Homestead it is told that two brother farmers have succeeded with two round silos. These are about 12 feet in diameter and 36 feet deep. They are made of one inch hemlock boards, jointed and set up; they are hooped with 1 1/2 by one-quarter inch flat iron welded into hoops of equal length, put on quite thick and nailed from the inside to each hoop and clinched over the hoop. When empty, you put your hand on top of one of the staves, and it will seem as if the thing would shake to pieces, and you can look through it between each board; when filled, the moisture swells the boards and makes them water tight, and they say it keeps every pound perfectly good, except on the top, where there will be some loss, as in every silo.

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## EXPORTS INCREASE.

MANUFACTURERS LOSE MONEY BY SHIPPING SURPLUS STOCK ABROAD.

Mineral Oils and Copper Ingots Classed as Manufactures—Object Lesson in Capturing Markets of the World—Mills Kept Open, but Home Trade Grows.

Being very much interested in tariff questions and a strong protectionist, and consequently a good Republican and admirer of the president elect, William McKinley, I write to you for some light on the inclosed figures, taken from the Journal of Commerce of New York. You will notice there is a gain of almost \$70,000,000 over our banner year, 1893, in the value of manufactured exports. Sixteen million dollars of this gain is partly explained in copper ingots and mineral oil, which are not highly finished products. The writer would like to see some answer to this article in your paper, and will look for it. These are the figures:

| Exports of Manufactures. | Value.       | Per cent. of total. | Total exports. |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 1890.....                | \$40,345,862 | 12.75               | \$316,342,423  |
| 1891.....                | 38,270,764   | 15.00               | 455,326,341    |
| 1892.....                | 102,936,015  | 12.48               | \$823,944,353  |
| 1893.....                | 147,187,527  | 20.35               | 724,062,940    |
| 1894.....                | 151,102,370  | 17.87               | \$845,358,828  |
| 1895.....                | 168,927,315  | 19.37               | \$872,370,288  |
| 1896.....                | 158,510,987  | 18.61               | 1,015,733,011  |
| 1897.....                | 158,023,118  | 19.02               | \$811,080,756  |
| 1898.....                | 188,728,928  | 21.14               | \$891,334,087  |
| 1899.....                | 183,565,743  | 22.14               | 793,856,599    |
| 1900.....                | 228,430,833  | 26.47               | \$852,519,220  |

It is quite true that our exports of manufactured goods have increased since 1893, as shown in the foregoing table.

After the advent of the Democratic administration in 1893 the threat of free trade paralyzed our industries, while the enactment of the Gorman bill of 1894 killed them. Manufacturers had been keeping their mills open and making goods, hoping against hope for the better times that never came. They were compelled to realize upon the unsold output of their mills, and shipments were made to the markets of the world, more often than not at a loss to the producer. That was part of our "object lesson" in capturing the markets of the world.

You state that \$16,000,000 of the total gain of \$70,000,000 in exports of manufactures over 1893 "is partly explained in copper ingots and mineral oil, which are not highly finished products." This is not quite correct, for The Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin gives this gain of \$16,000,000 only since 1894, not since 1893. Our exports of refined mineral oils and copper ingots during the first ten months of 1892 and 1894 compare as follows:

| Exports of                | Ten months to Oct. 31. | 1892.        | 1893. |
|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Refined mineral oils..... | \$21,019,070           | \$47,979,000 |       |
| Copper ingots.....        | 2,690,428              | 22,004,000   |       |
| Totals.....               | \$23,709,498           | \$70,000,000 |       |

The increase in the exports of these two "manufactures"—so called—was \$36,000,000 in ten months of this year, as compared with the corresponding ten months of 1892. Deducting this \$36,000,000 from the total increase of \$70,000,000 leaves only \$34,000,000 additional increase in four years to be divided among every other class of more legitimate manufactures; therefore the gain has not been so very great after all, especially when we consider that our own markets were practically closed to us in some lines of goods this year and our manufacturers were compelled either to shut up or attempt to capture the markets of the world, and possibly at a loss to themselves.

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